



~~Example of~~ Application of:

Group Art Unit: 2674

Examiner: Kevin M. Nguyen

Confirmation No.: 7195

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application, and complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publications Nos. Hei-6-308879, Hei-8-95797, Hei-9-1203403 and Hei-10-39994 are cited on page 2 of the specification, and English abstracts are also enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 27, 2006

By: 

Michael R. Kelly
Reg. No. 33,921

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 09/464,161 |
| Filing Date | December 16, 1999 |
| First Named Inventor | Shinichiro GOMI et al. |
| Parent Art Unit | 2674 |
| Parent Examiner Name | Kevin M. Nguyen |
| Attorney Docket Number | 09812.0621-00 |

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁶ |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP-06-308879 | 11-04-1994 | Sano et al. | | Abstract |
| | | JP-08-095707 | 04-12-1996 | Ino | | Abstract |
| | | JP-09-120340 | 05-06-1997 | Maezawa | | Abstract |
| | | JP-10-039994 | 02-13-1998 | Hashimoto | | Abstract |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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Examiner
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Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.